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# Focused Schlieren Imaging for Supersonic Film Cooling

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# Outline

- **Background**
- Objectives and Methodology
- Results and Conclusions



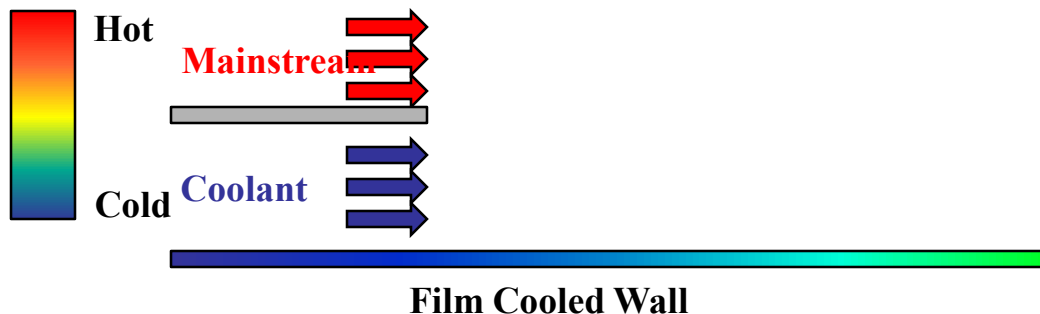
# Introduction to Film Cooling

## What is Film Cooling?

- Technique where a cooler gas is injected along critical surfaces, creating an insulating layer that protects the walls from hot combustion exhaust.

- **Applications**

- Gas Turbines
  - Combustor liner
  - Turbine blades
- Rockets
  - Nozzle extension



## Gas turbine combustor

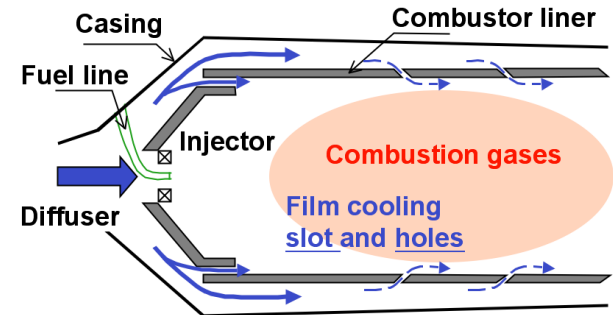
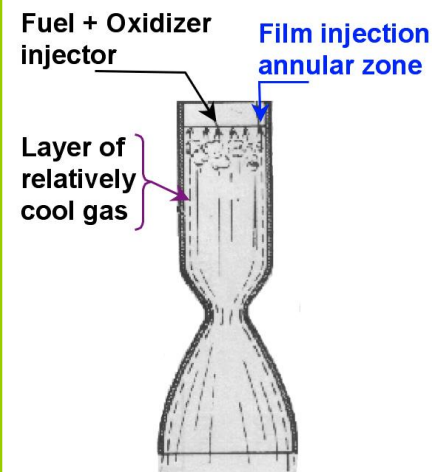


Figure Adapted from  
Cruz (2008)

## Rocket thrust chamber



Adapted from  
(Sutton, 1986)

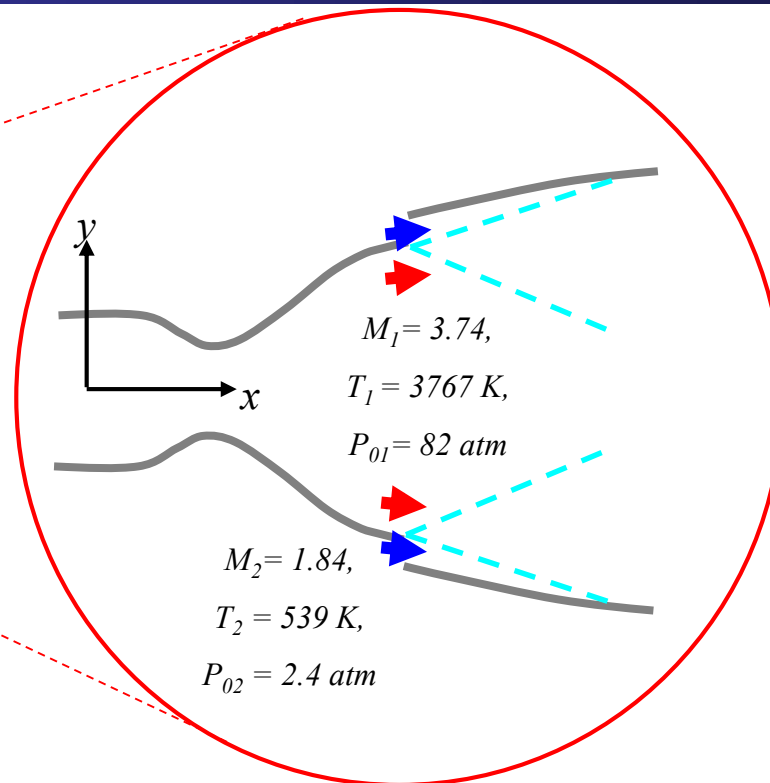
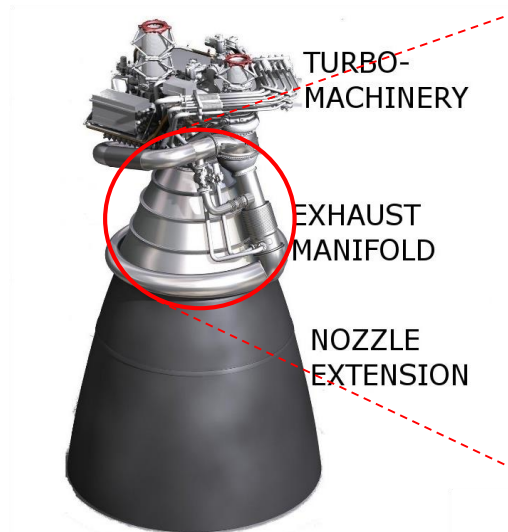


J-2X Concept



# J-2x Nozzle film Cooling

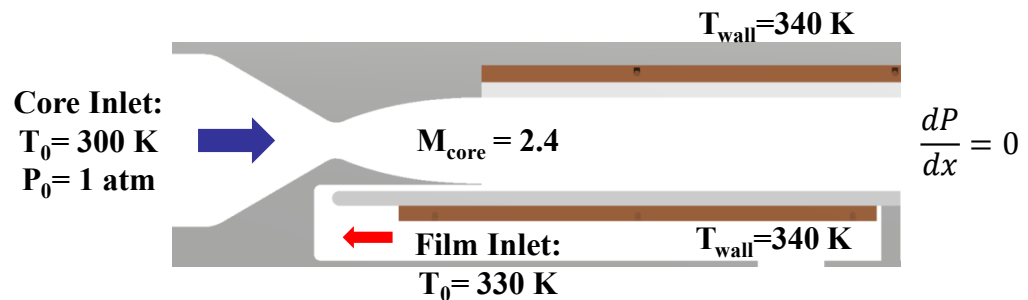
- J-2X nozzle extension



- UMD tunnel

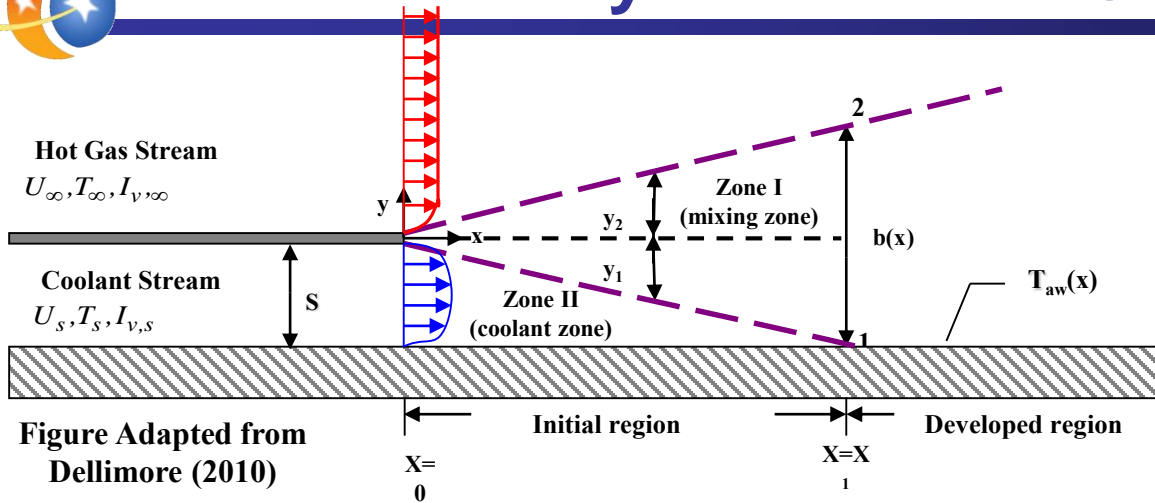
- J-2X analogue
- Various film flow cases:

- Case 0 – no film
- Case 1 –  $M_{\text{film}} = 0.5$
- Case 2 –  $M_{\text{film}} = 0.7$
- Case 3 –  $M_{\text{film}} = 1.2$





# Physics of Film Cooling



## Parameters characterizing the mixing of the film

- Blowing ratio,  $BR = (\rho U)_s / (\rho U)_\infty$
- Velocity ratio,  $VR = U_s / U_\infty$
- Slot Reynolds number,  $Re_s = (U_s s) / \nu$
- Inlet turbulence intensity,  $I_u = U_{rms} / U$ ,  $I_v = V_{rms} / U$

Film Cooling effectiveness

$$\eta_{aw} = \frac{(T_\infty - T_{aw})}{(T_\infty - T_c)}$$

## Important Flow Features

- Large Shear
- Wall-bounded flow
- Initial turbulence
- Intense mixing and heat transfer
- Low pressure region behind louver lip

Wall Wake (WW) –  $VR < 1$

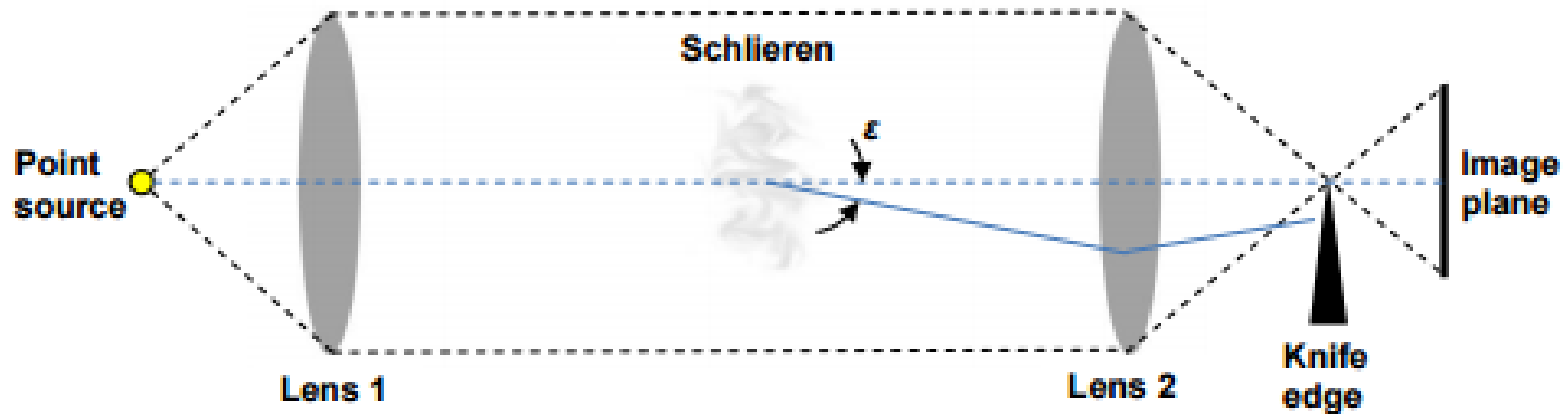
Minimum Shear (MS) –  $VR \sim 1$

Wall Jet (WJ) –  $VR > 1$

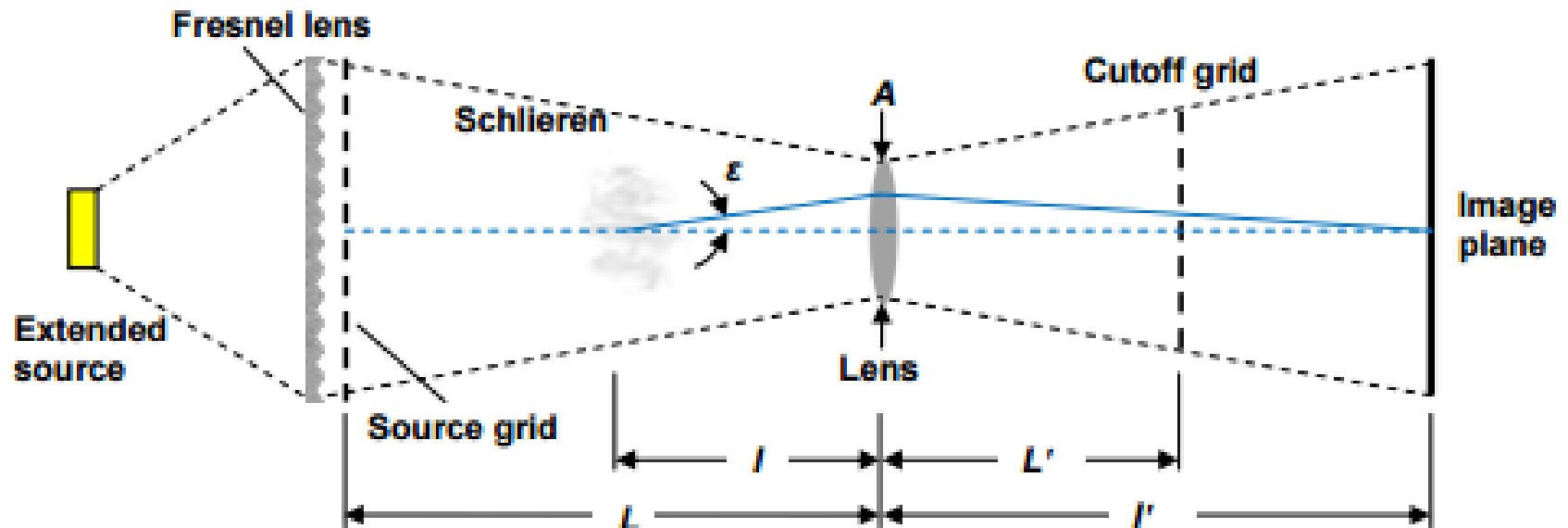


# Regular vs Focused Schlieren Schematic

## Regular



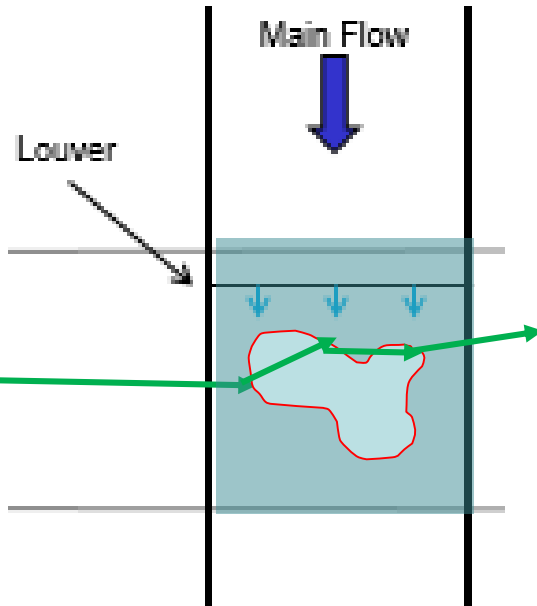
## Focused



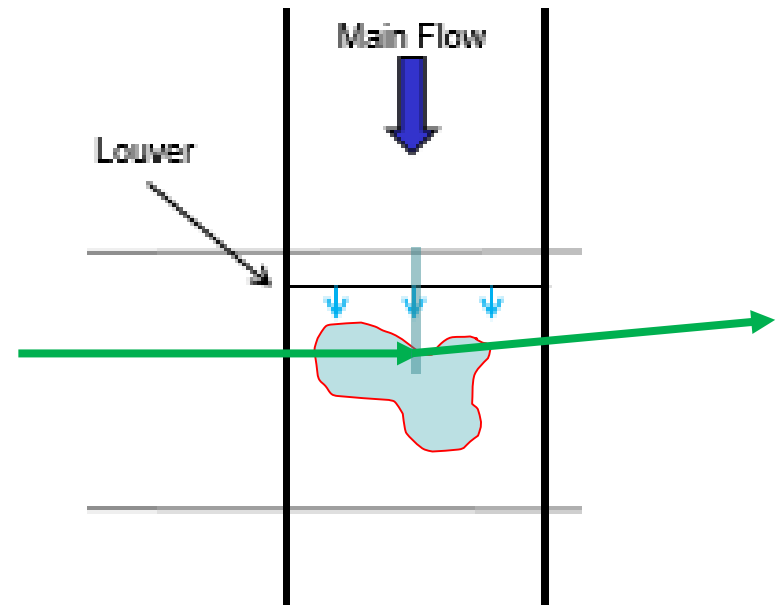


# Depth of Focus

## Regular



## Focused

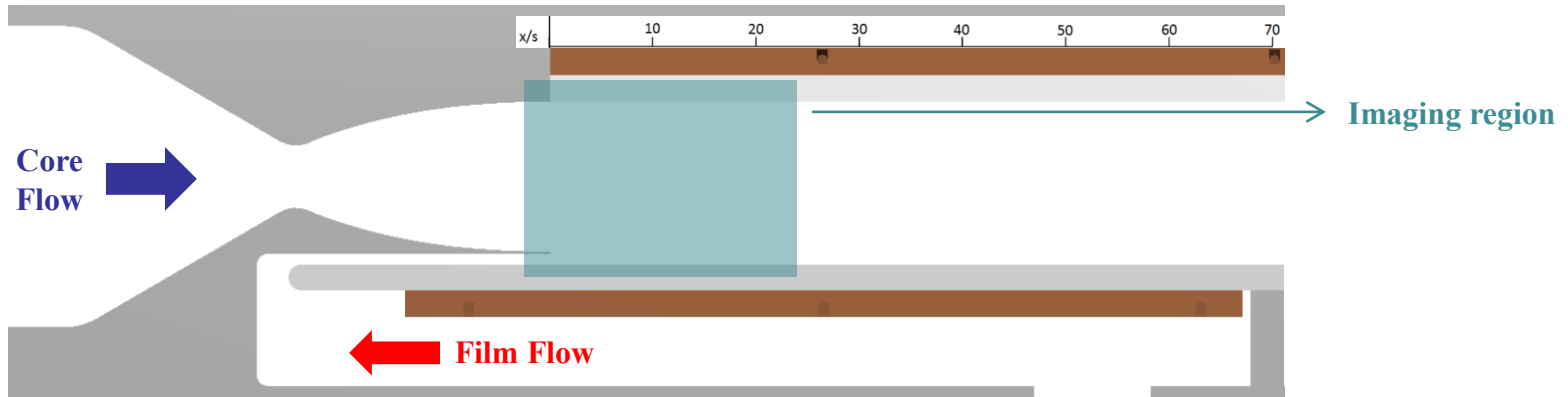


**The resulting image will be the average of all planes within depth of focus. Will only be able to see turbulent structures with focused schlieren**

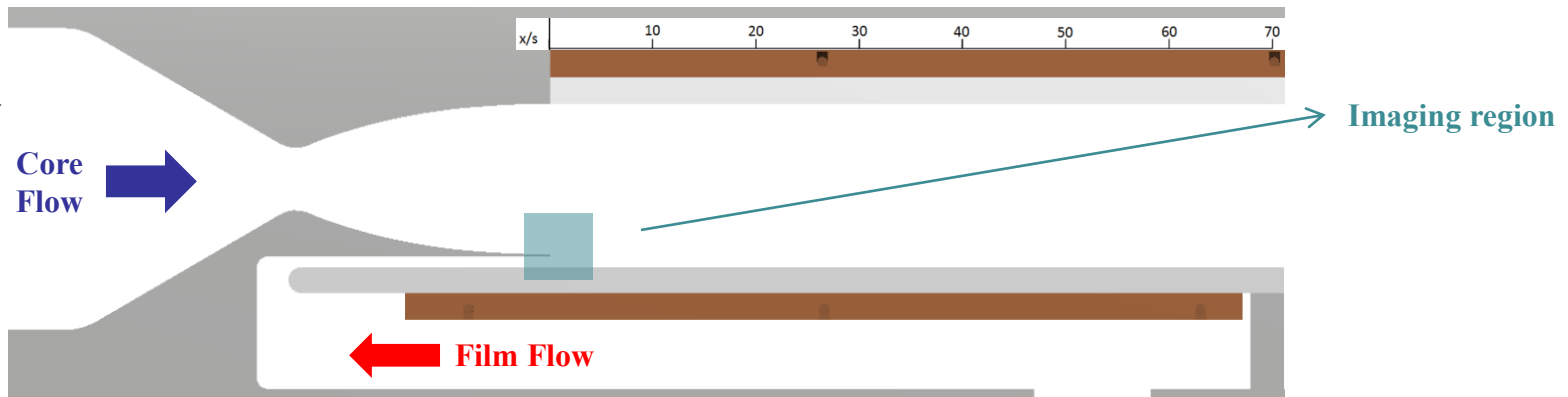


# Field of View

## Regular



## Focused



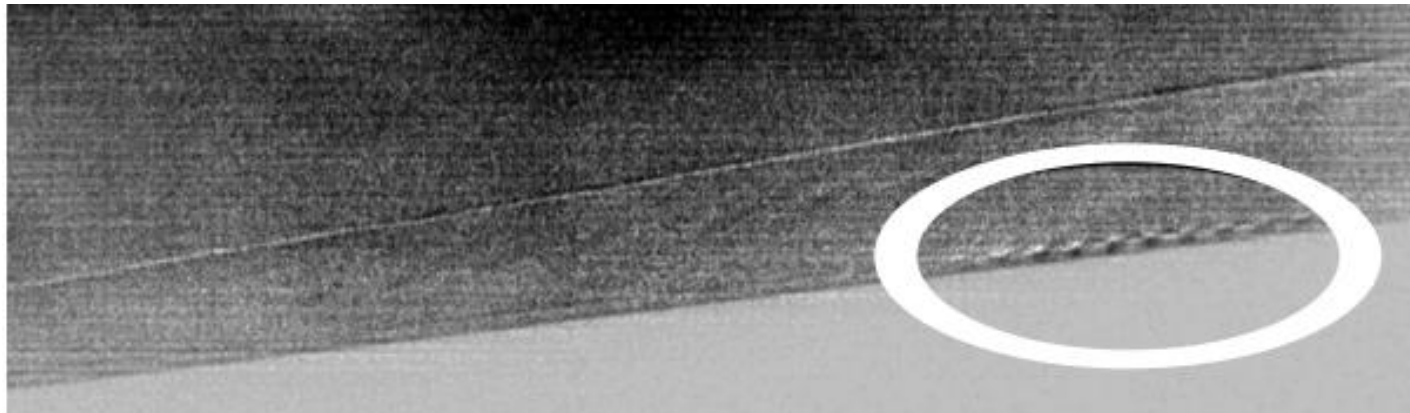
- Focused Schlieren has a much smaller Field of view





## Previous Work

- VanDercreek<sup>[1]</sup> was able to visualize a turbulent boundary layer on a sharp nosed cone in a hypersonic wind Tunnel



- Lawson<sup>[2]</sup> was able to measure velocity of supersonic turbulent boundary layer using focusing-schlieren PIV with a pulsed LED



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# Objectives

- A non-Intrusive method to resolve velocity field and flow structures
  - Use regular schlieren to visualize shocks and expansions
  - Used focused schlieren to visualize turbulent structures in the boundary layer
  - Use a pulsed LED for focused schlieren PIV
    - Freeze flow to move only 0.1 mm
- Compare experimental velocity and flow structures to CFD for validation



# UMD Supersonic Wind Tunnel

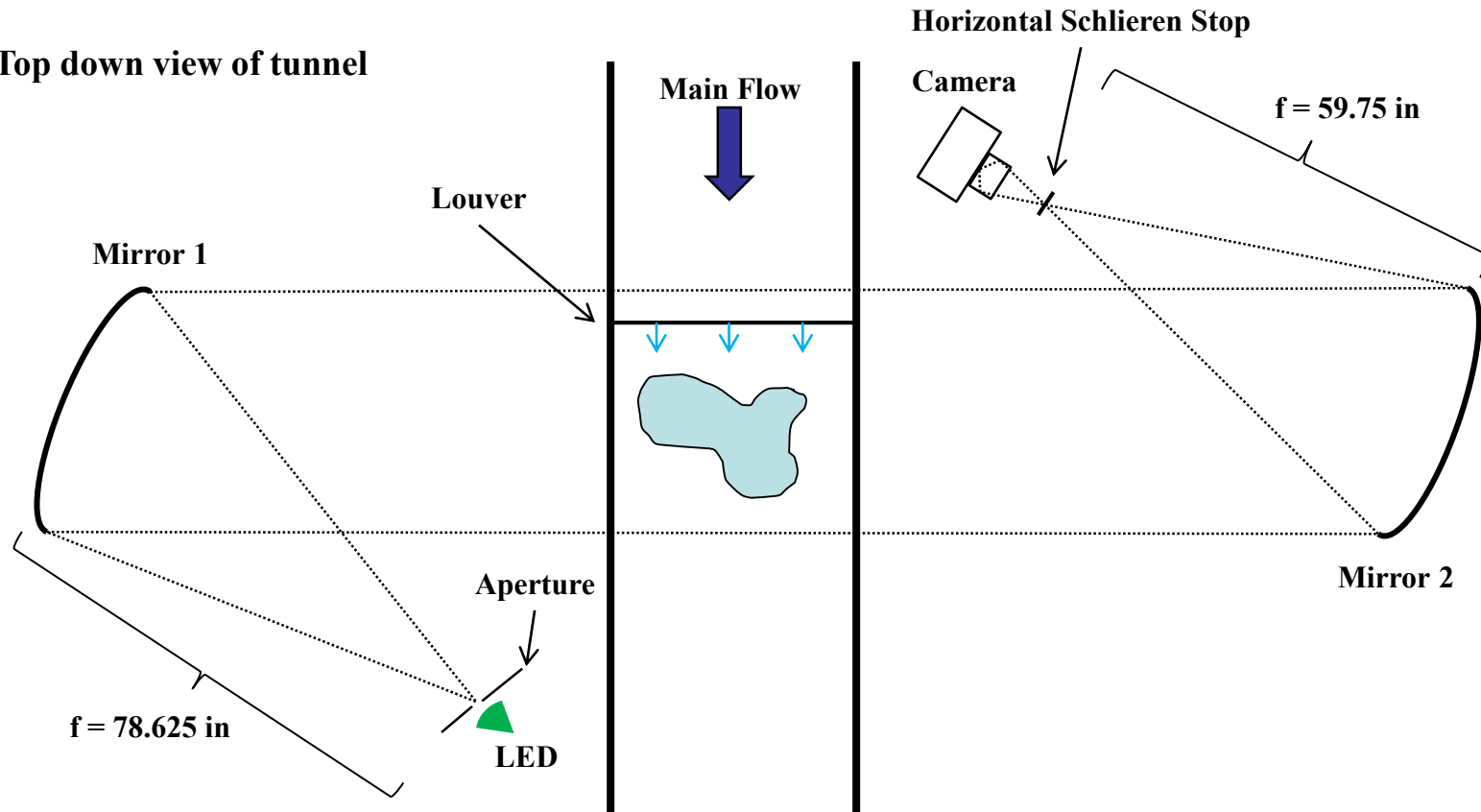


- Basic Specs
  - Transient facility (6-10 sec run time)
  - Working fluid: Air
  - Total P, T: Ambient
  - Test section Dimension: 12"x6"x26"
- The tunnel cannot directly match J-2X conditions so special care must be taken to design analogous experiments.
  - Heat walls to ensure that the heat flux vector always points into the flow
  - Heat film to ensure temperature "cascade" is preserved



# Schlieren System

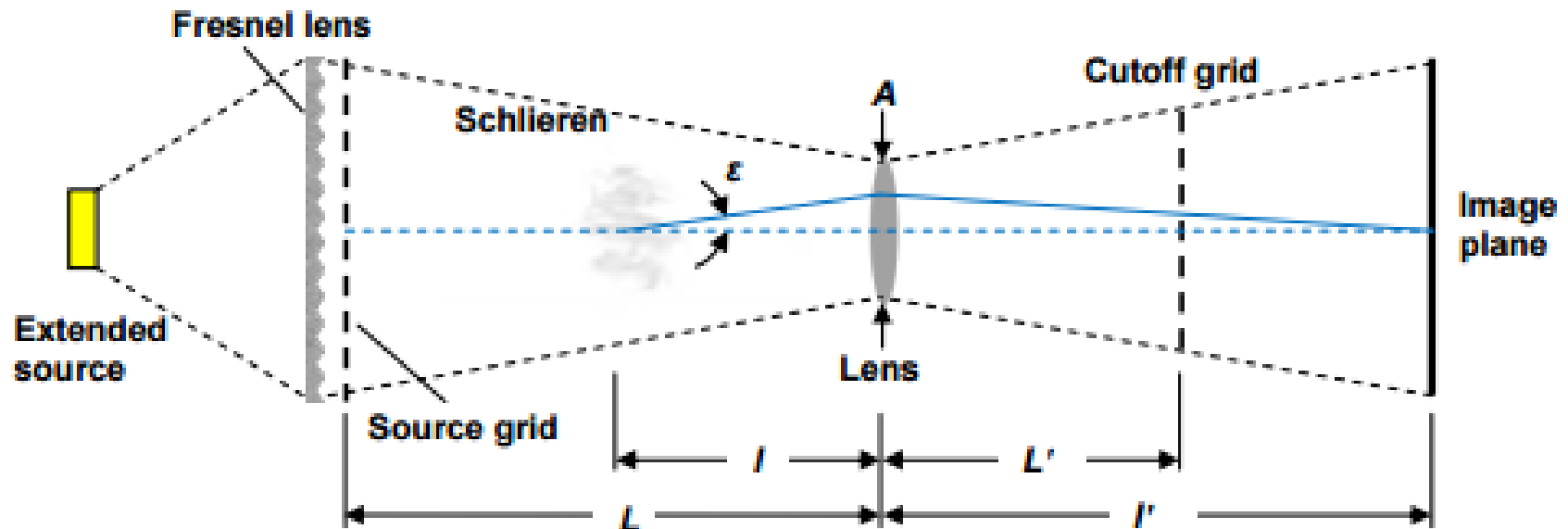
Top down view of tunnel



- Z configuration
- Nikon D-90 with Nikon 70-300mm f/4-5.6G lens



# Focused Schlieren Lengths



- Everything was kept symmetric
  - $L = l' = 1219$  mm
  - $l = l' = 240$  mm. Determined by focal length of schlieren Lens



# Cut-off grid Calculations

$$\epsilon_{min} = 20626 * \frac{b}{2} * \frac{L}{L' * (L - l)} = 10 \text{ arcseconds}$$

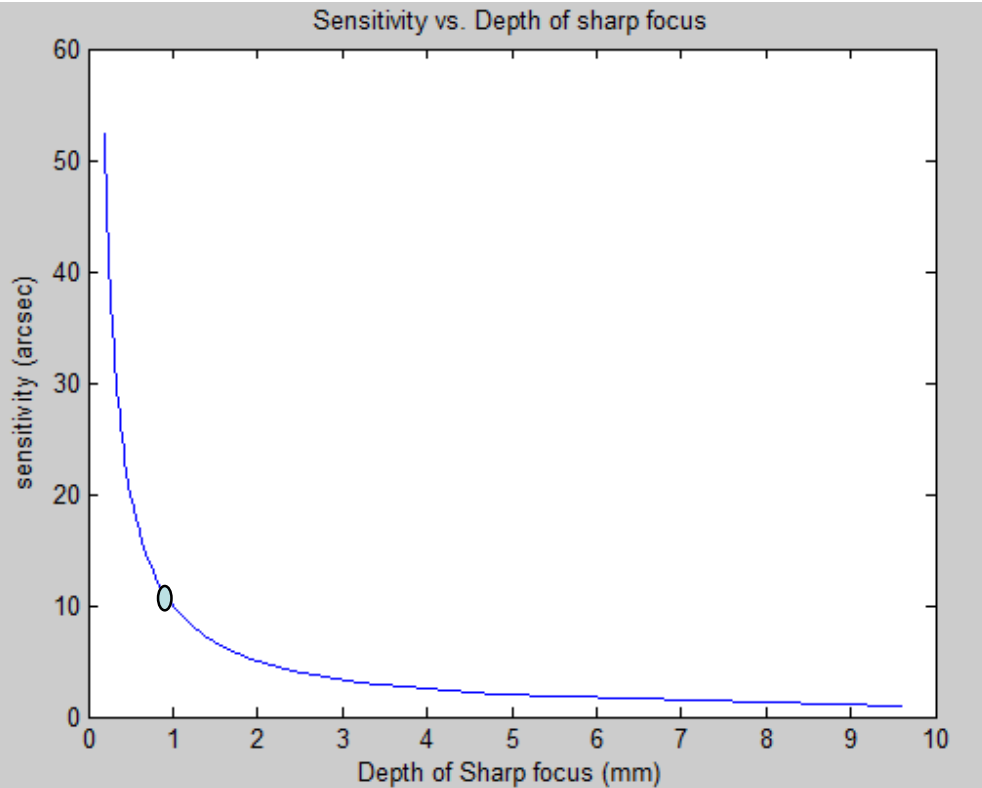
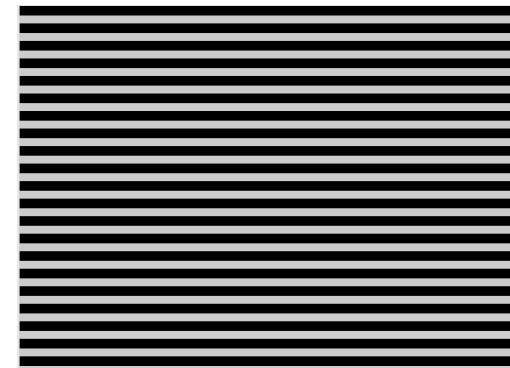
$$Ds = \frac{4 * l^2 * (l' - L') * \lambda}{A_s * b * l'} = 1 \text{ mm}$$

$\lambda$  = wavelength of light =  
 $521 * 10^{-6} \text{ mm}$

$A_s$  = Schlieren lens diameter  
= 100 mm

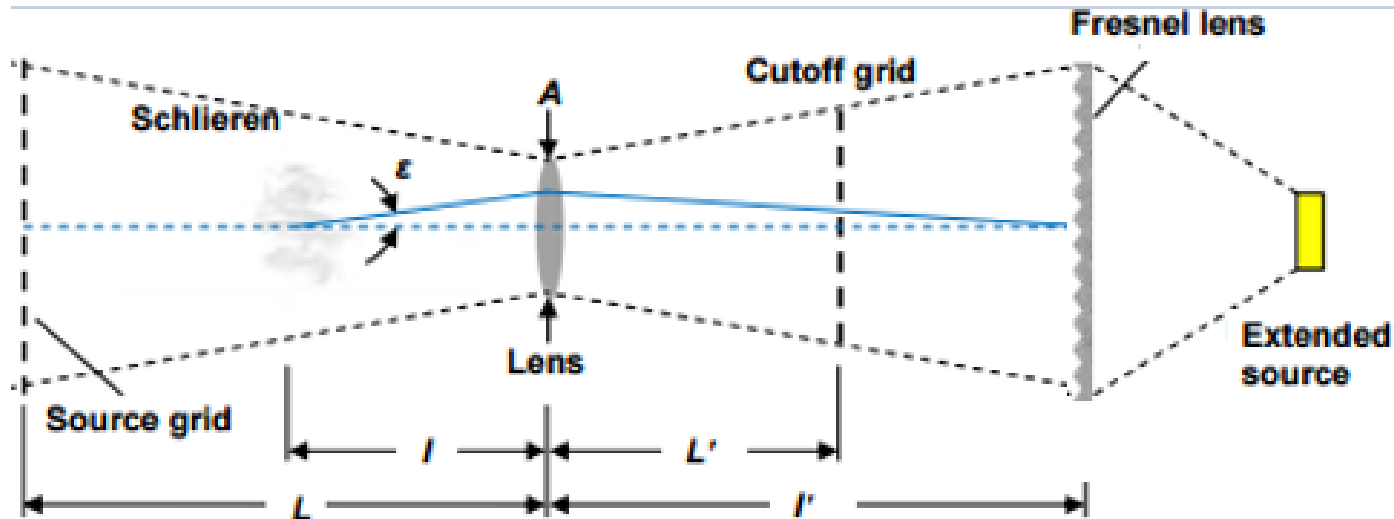
$b$  = cutoff grid width =  
1mm

**Cut-Off grid**





# Generating Source Grid



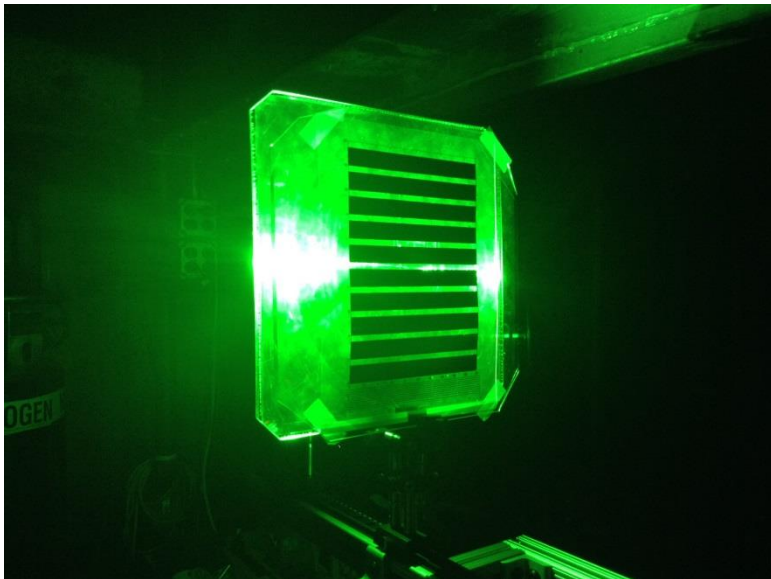
- System is symmetric. So able to run system in reverse in order to determine size of source grid
- Both cut-off and source grid printed on transparency paper



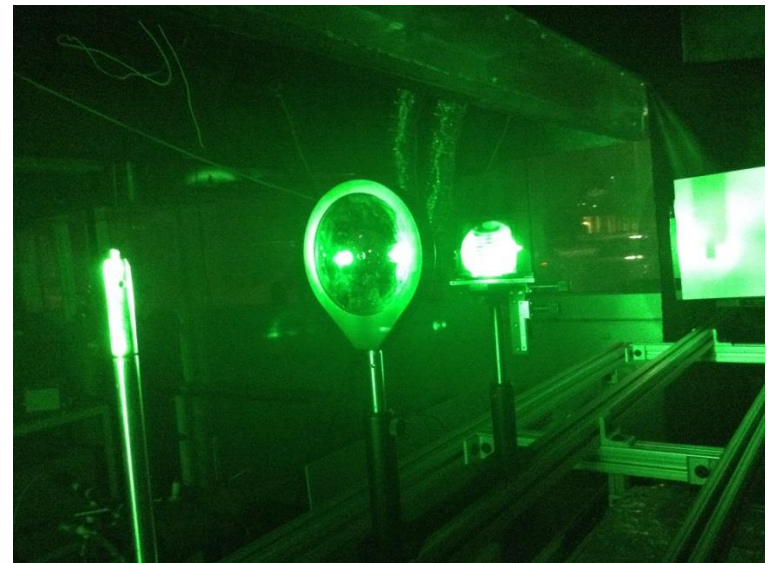


# Focused Schlieren System

## Fresnel Lens and Source Grid

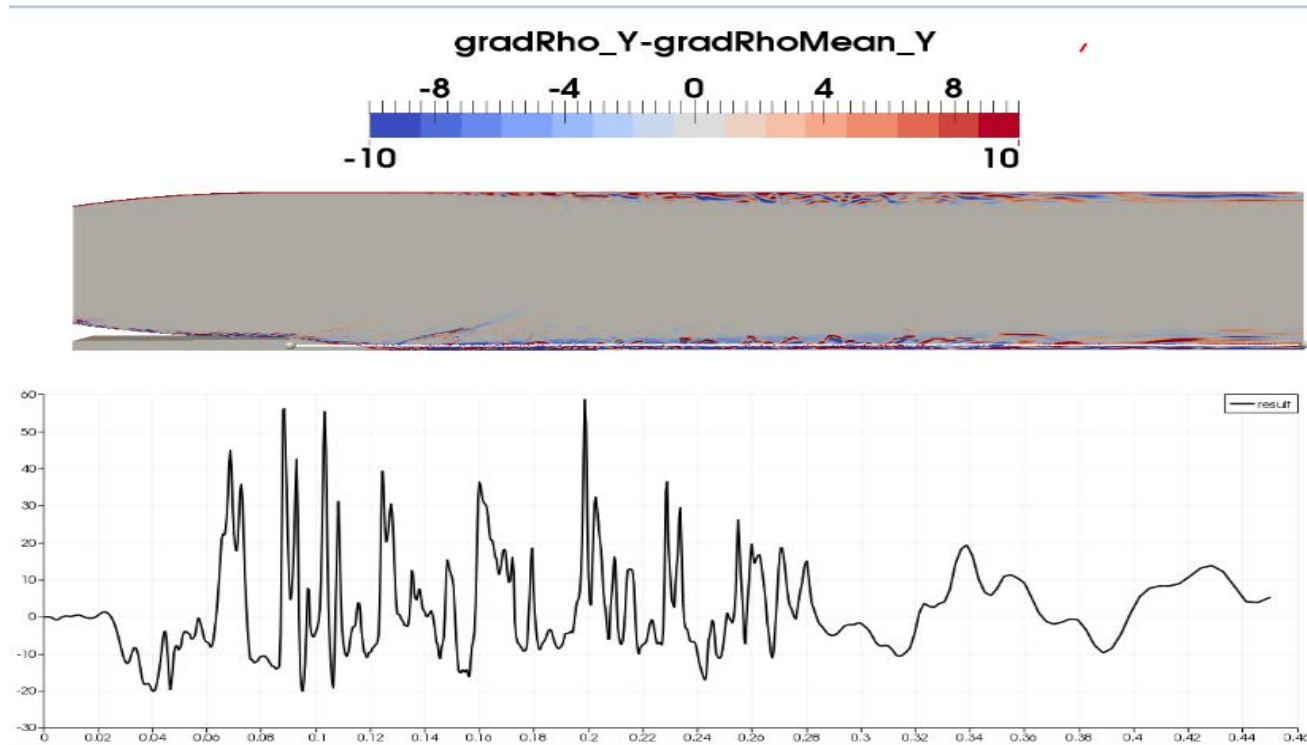


## Schlieren Lens and cut-off grid





# Expected Focused Schlieren Images



$$k = \text{Gladstone - Dale coefficient} = 0.23 \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{g}}$$

$$n_0 = 1.000292 \text{ for air}$$

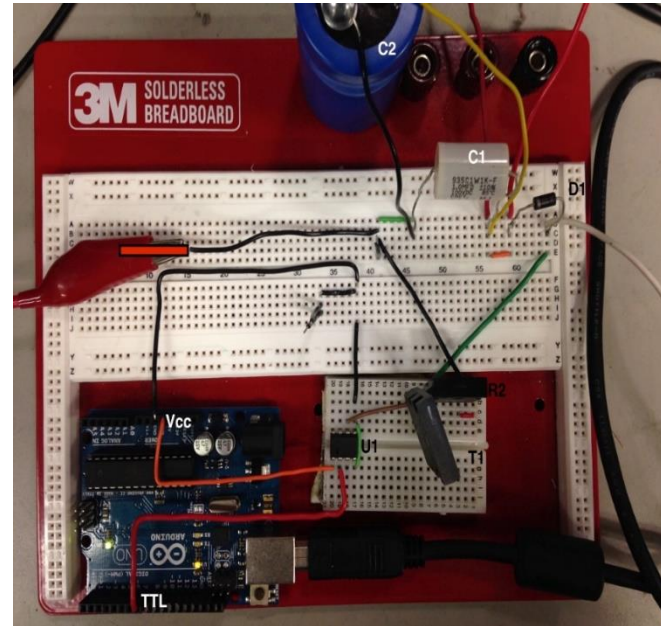
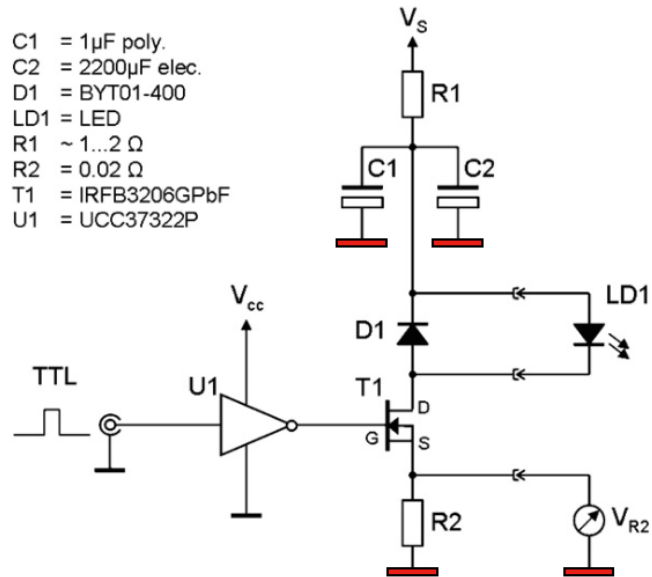
$$\epsilon_y = \frac{k * L}{n_0} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y};$$

Can view Density Gradients :

$$|\nabla \rho| > 0.88 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^4}$$



# Pulsed Light Source



- Based on a high intensity LED with an advertised response time < 25 ns
- Based on Wilert's design<sup>[3]</sup> which used a pulse width of 5 $\mu$ s
- Circuit triggered using a square wave generated by an Arduino
  - Arduino provides inexpensive triggering flexibility



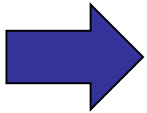
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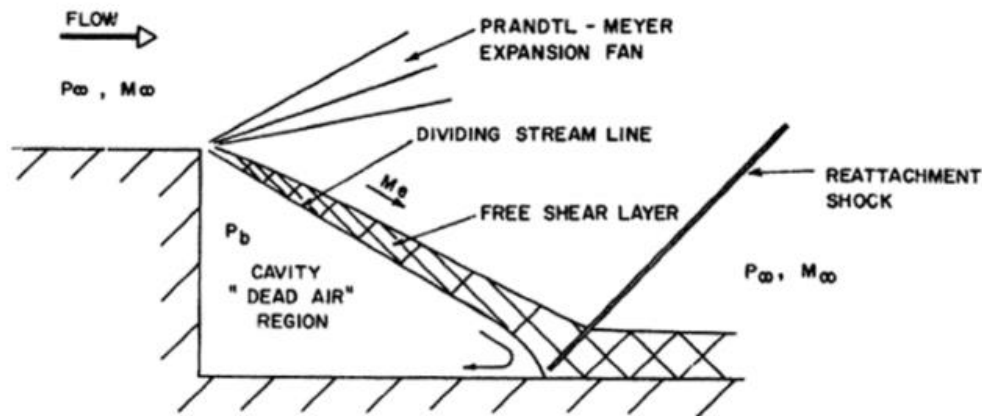
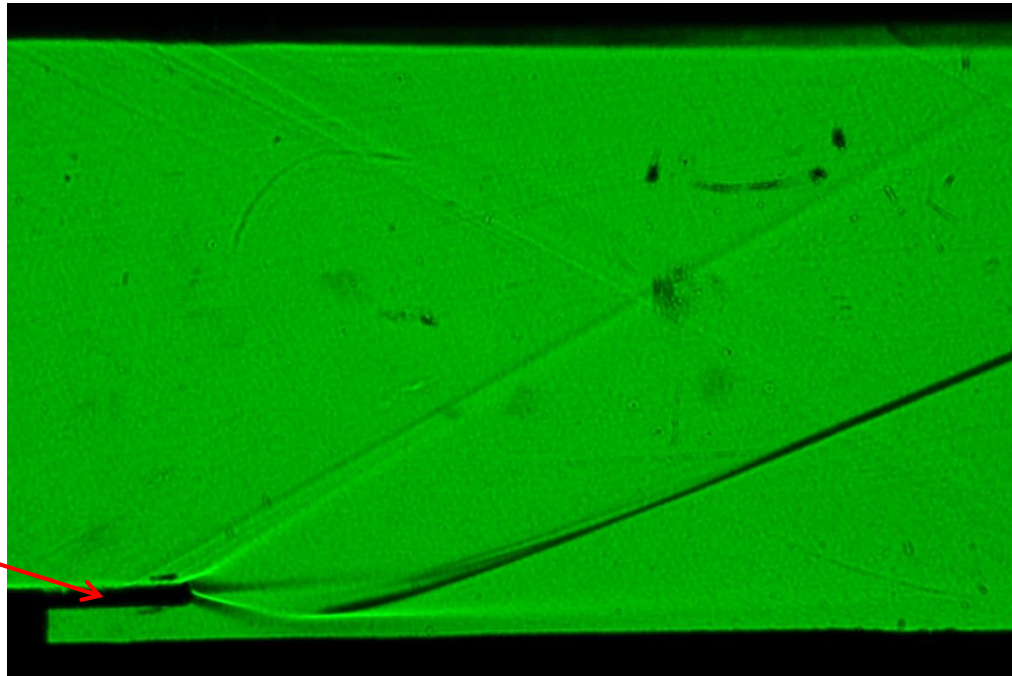
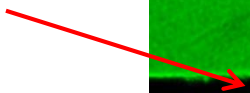


# Flow Structure: Case 0 ( $M_{\text{film}} = 0$ )

Flow

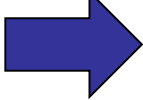


Film Louver

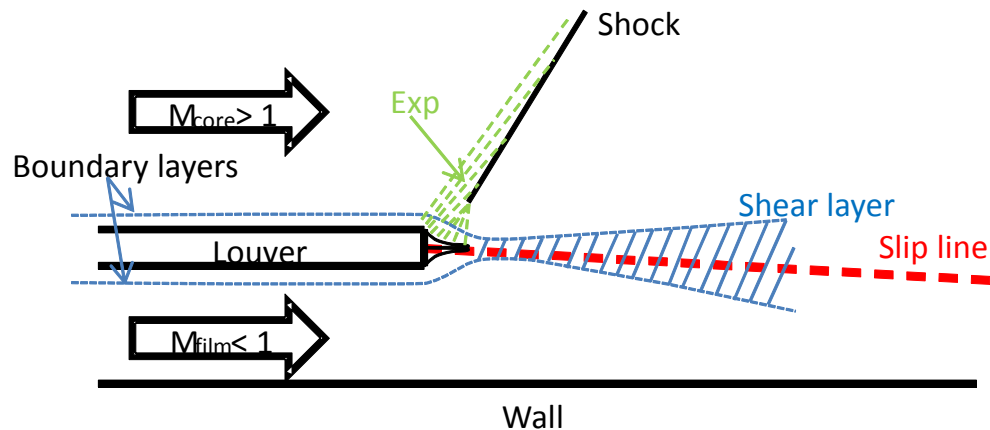
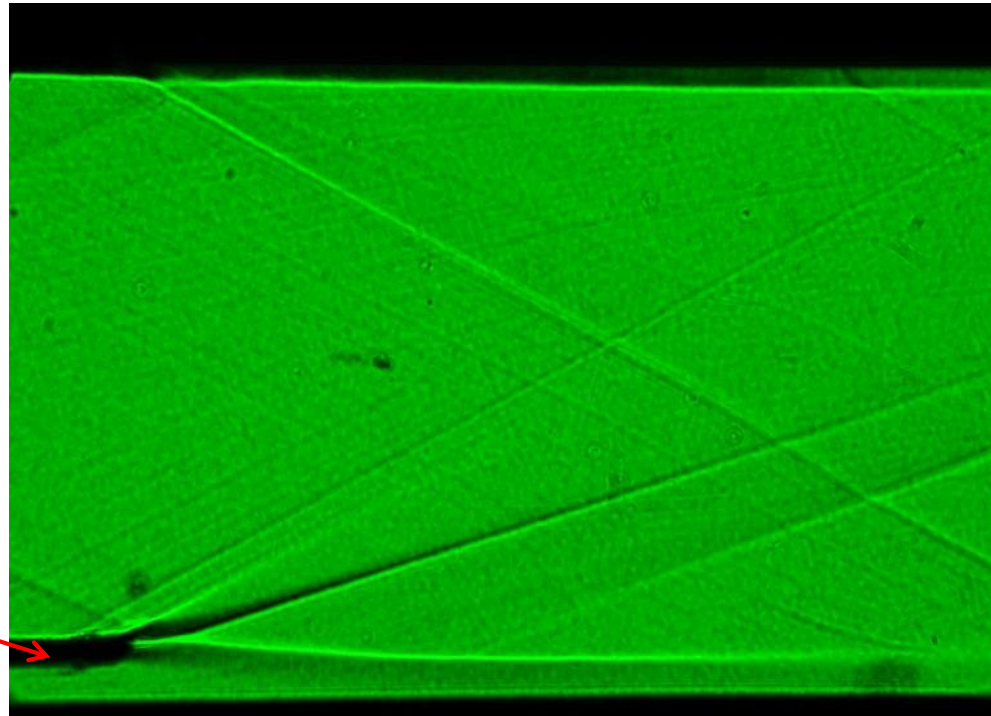




# Flow Structure: Case 1 ( $M_{\text{film}} = 0.5$ )

Flow 

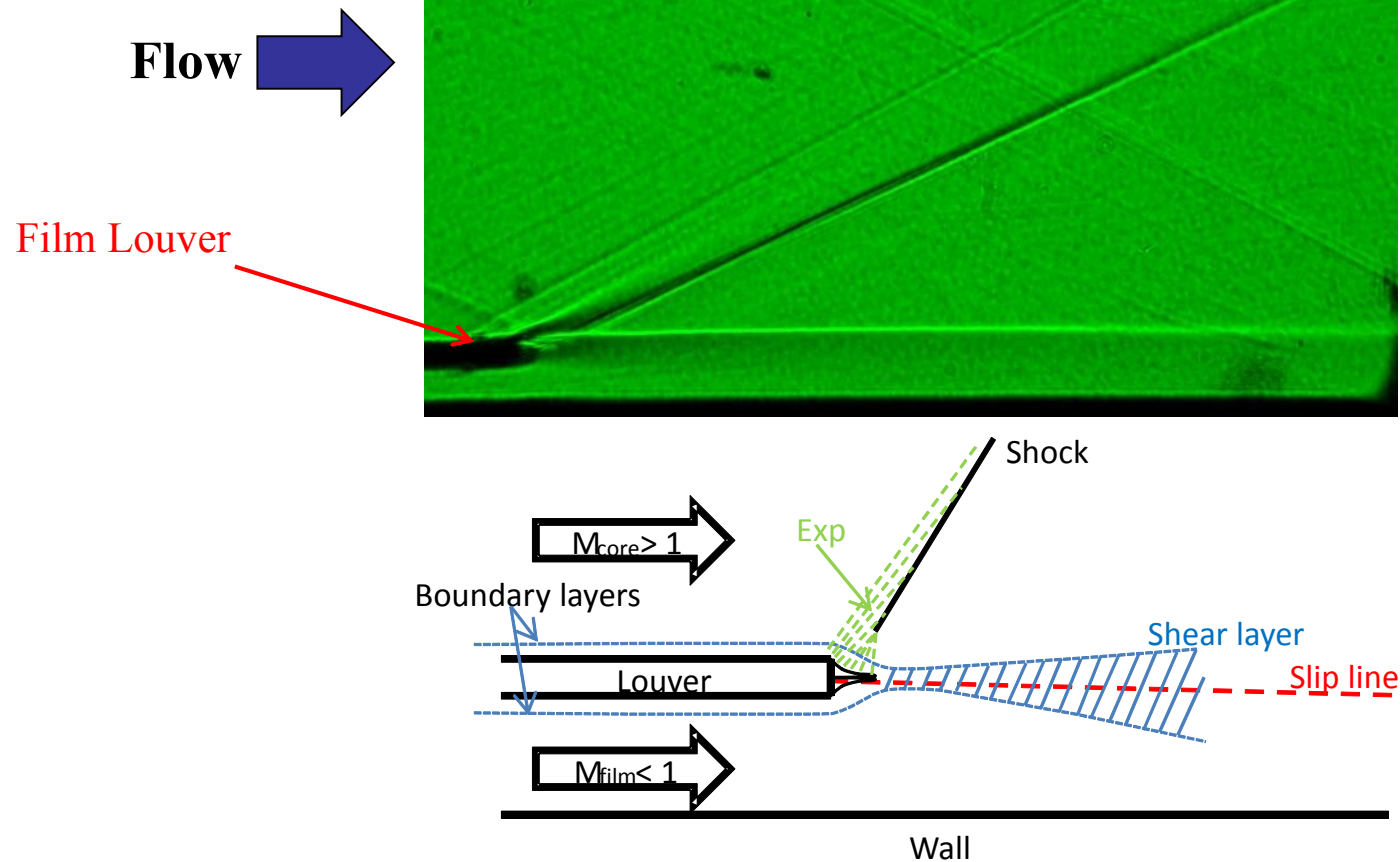
Film Louver





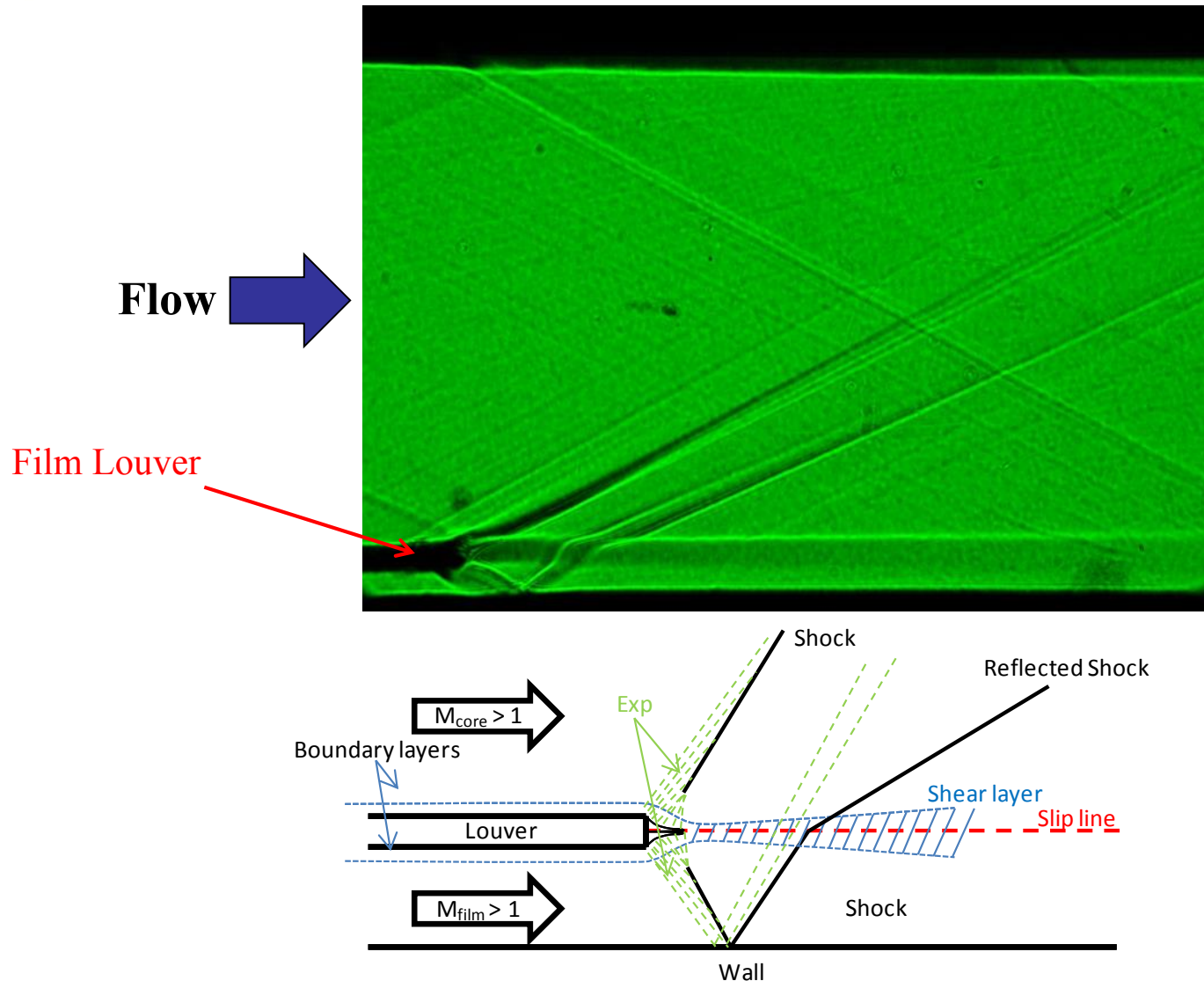


# Flow Structure: Case 2 ( $M_{\text{film}} = 0.7$ )





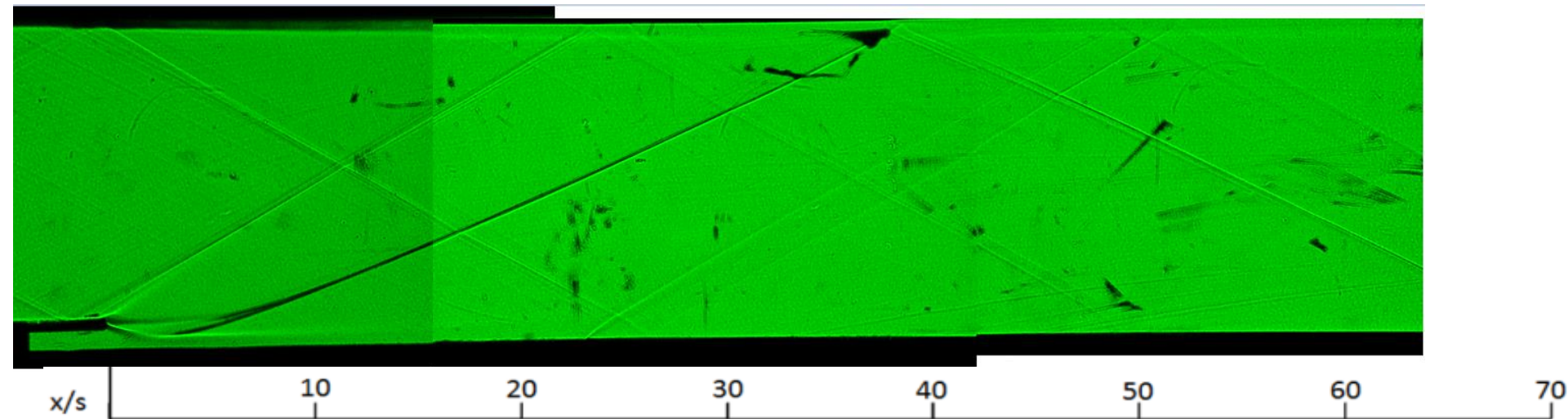
# Flow Structure: Case 3 ( $M_{\text{film}} = 1.2$ )







# Schlieren Image of full test section: No Film

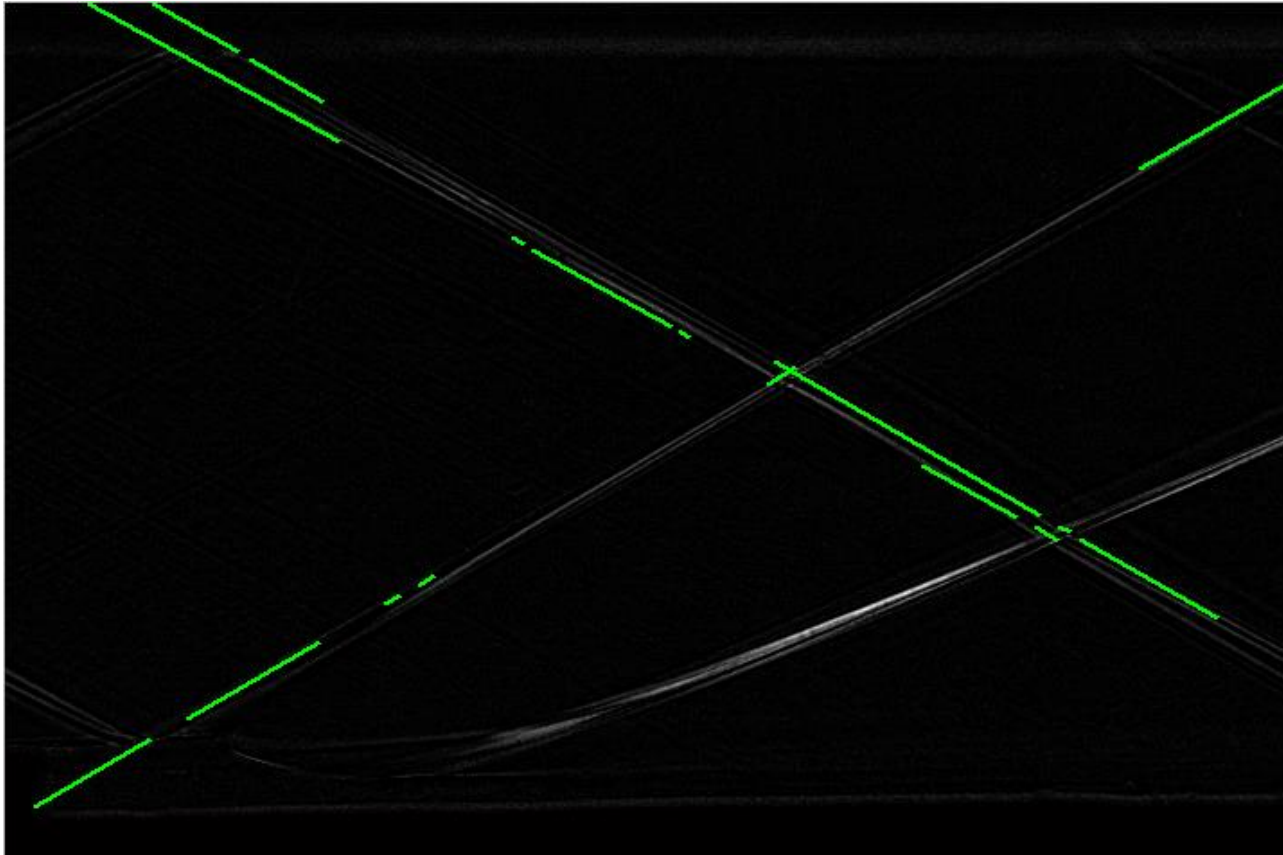


- **Shear layer appears completely mixed out after  $x/s = 8$**
- **Lip shock reflects off upper wall at  $x/s = 22.5$**
- **Numerous blotches are window scratches**



# Automated Angle Detection

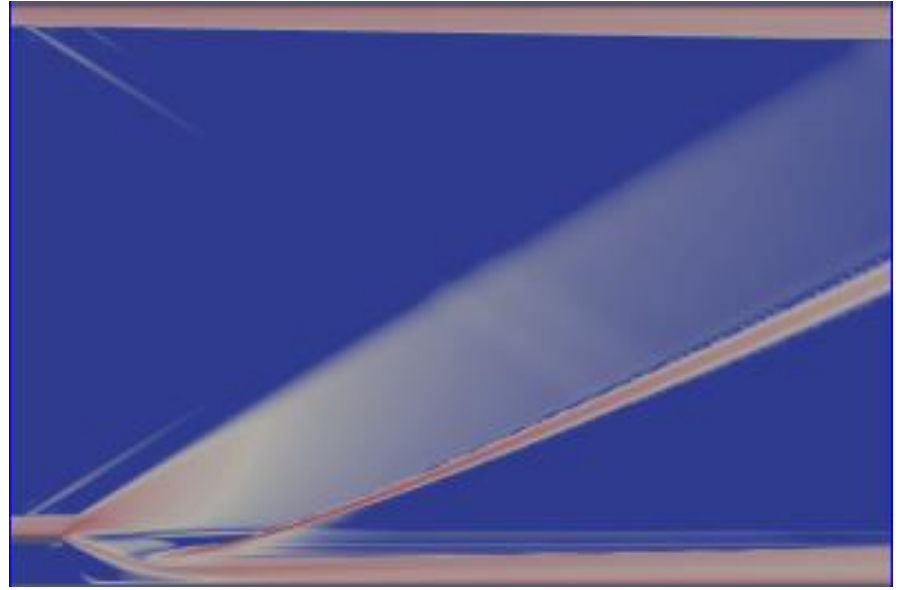
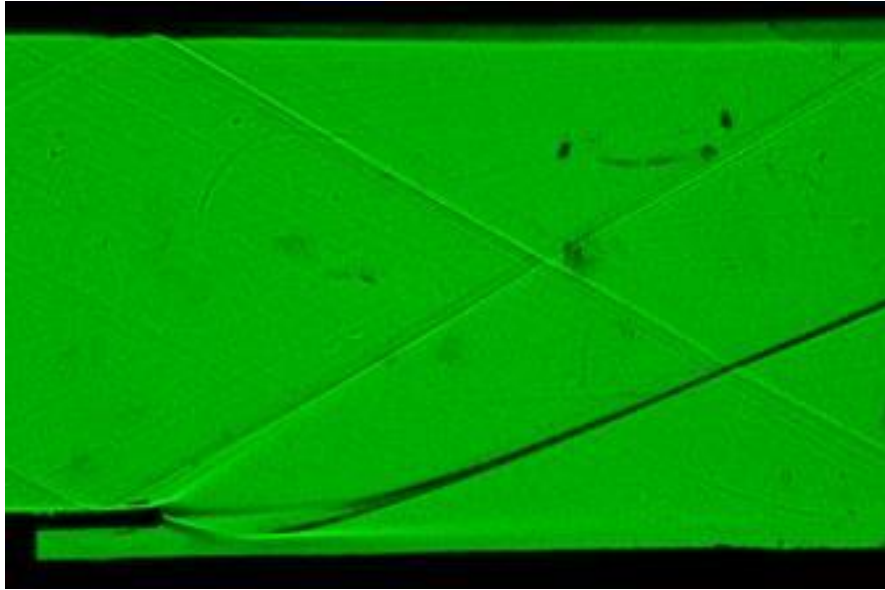
- Able to detect lines in an image using the Hough transform matlab functions



**Case 0 ( $M_{\text{film}} = 0$ )**



# Comparison to CFD

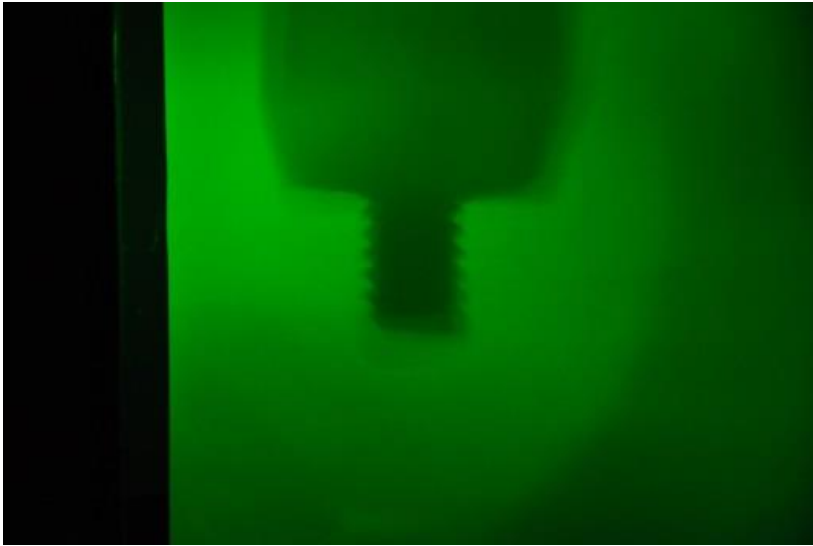


- Schlieren and CFD are qualitatively similar
  - Both show lip and reattachment shocks
  - Evidence of recirculation region
- Shock angles consistent within 5%
  - Lip shock  $\theta = 30^\circ$
  - Reattachment shock  $\theta = 21^\circ$
  -



# Depth of Focus

**In focus**



**10 mm  
out of focus**



- **Target is an 8-32 bolt**
- **Depth of Sharp focus is on the order of 10 mm**
  - **Much smaller than tunnel width (152 mm)**
  - **Insufficient to resolve small scale structures**
  - **But much better than regular schlieren**



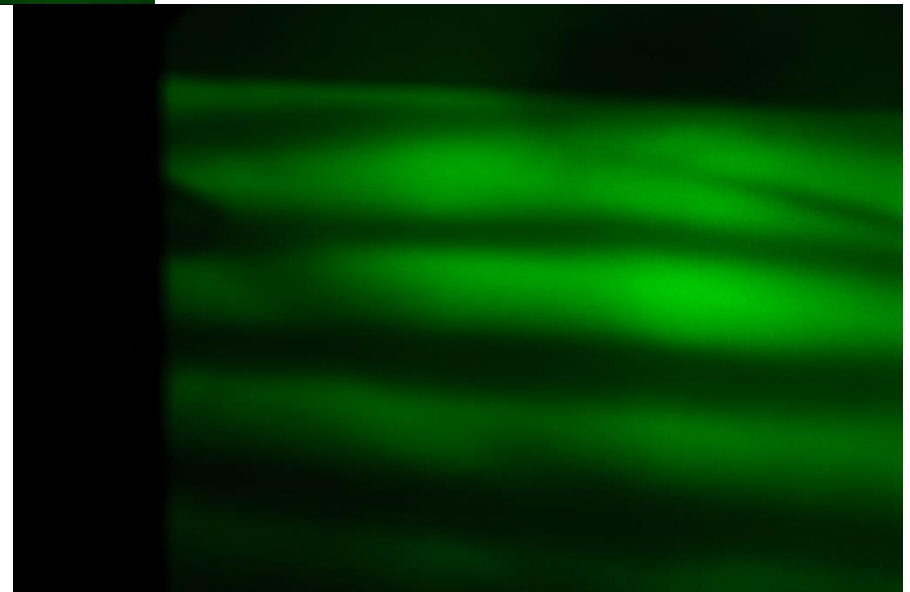
# Focused Schlieren Sensitivity



- Focused schlieren video of butane gas stream in the test section

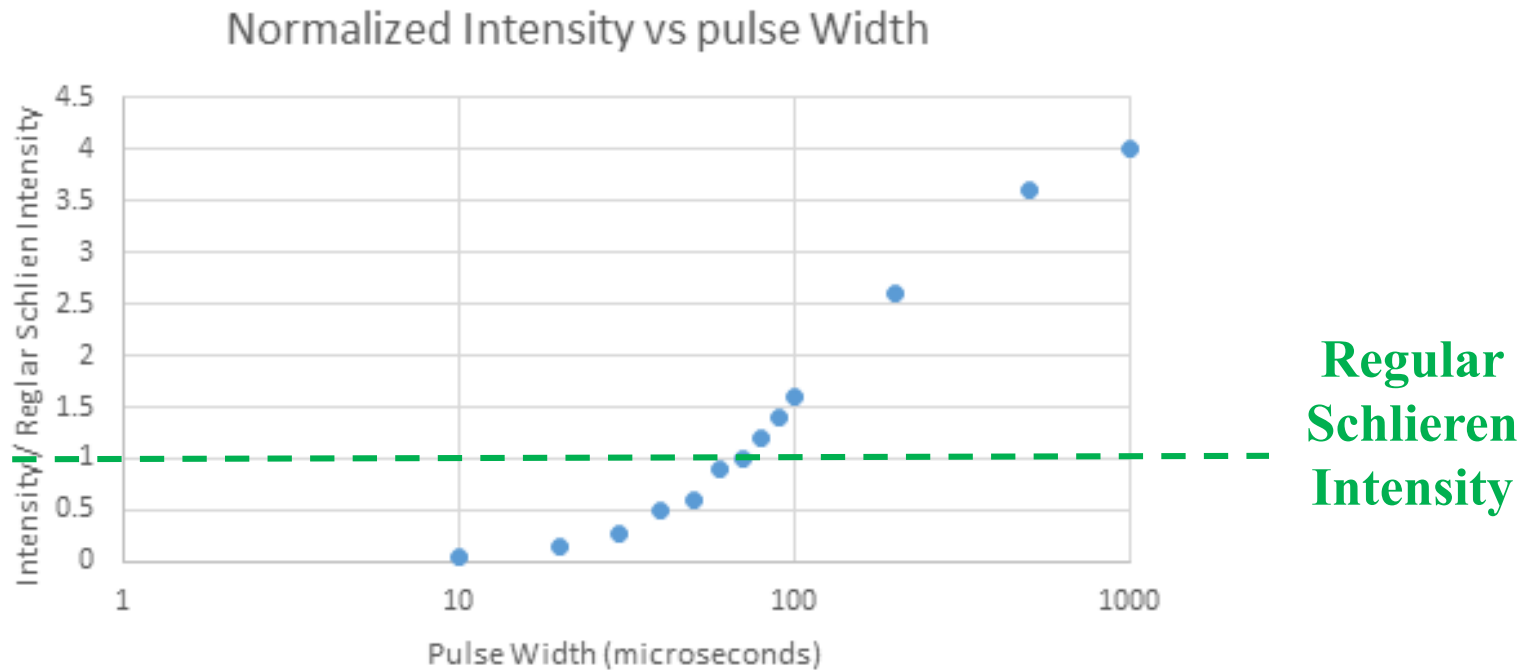
**No Film Case Focused Schlieren**  
**Minimum verifiable density gradient**

$$\sim 26 \frac{kg}{m^4}$$





# Power/Pulse Width Tradeoff

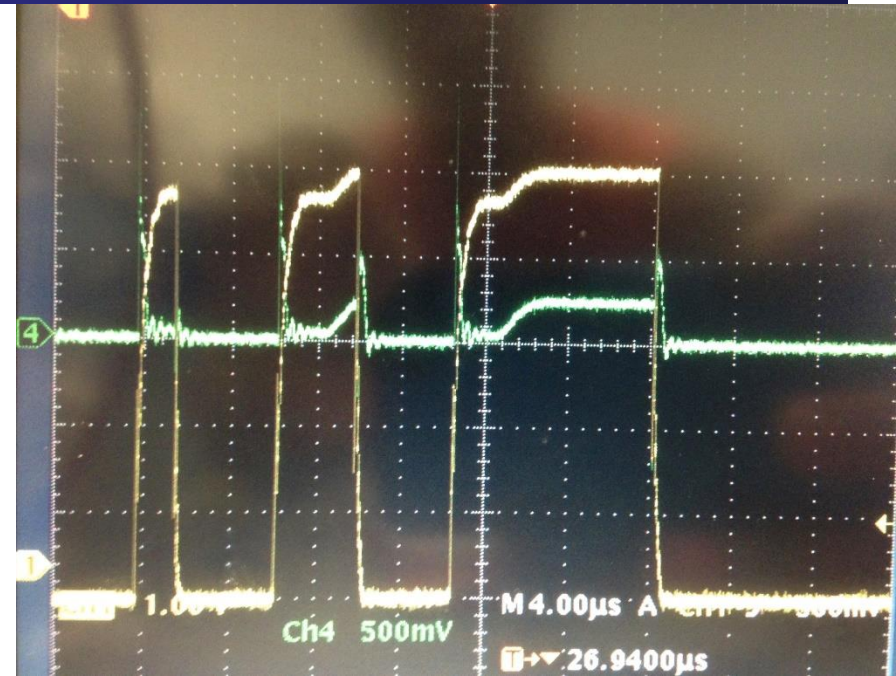
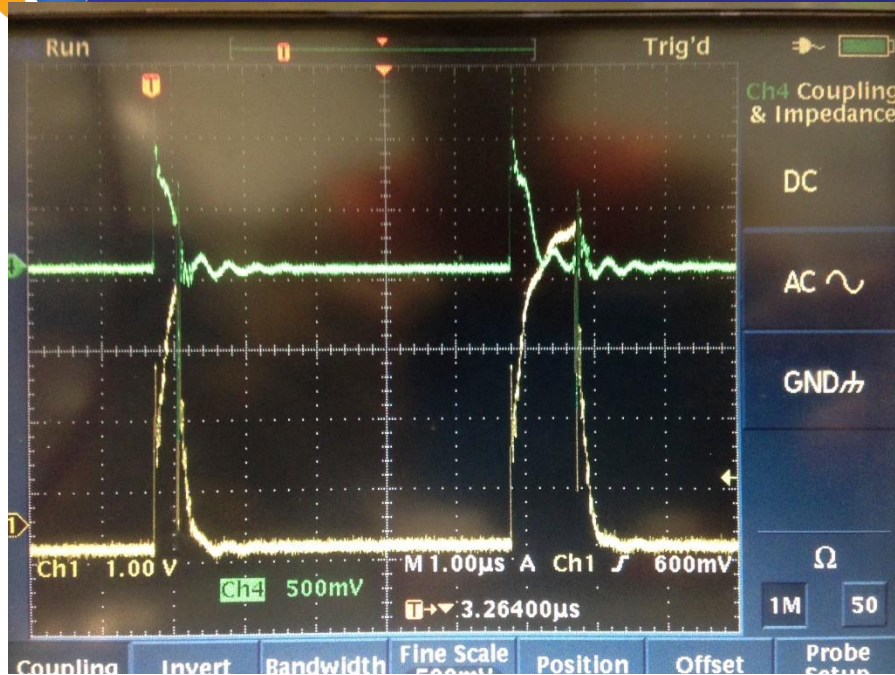


- The 70  $\mu s$  pulse provided enough power to illuminate the test section





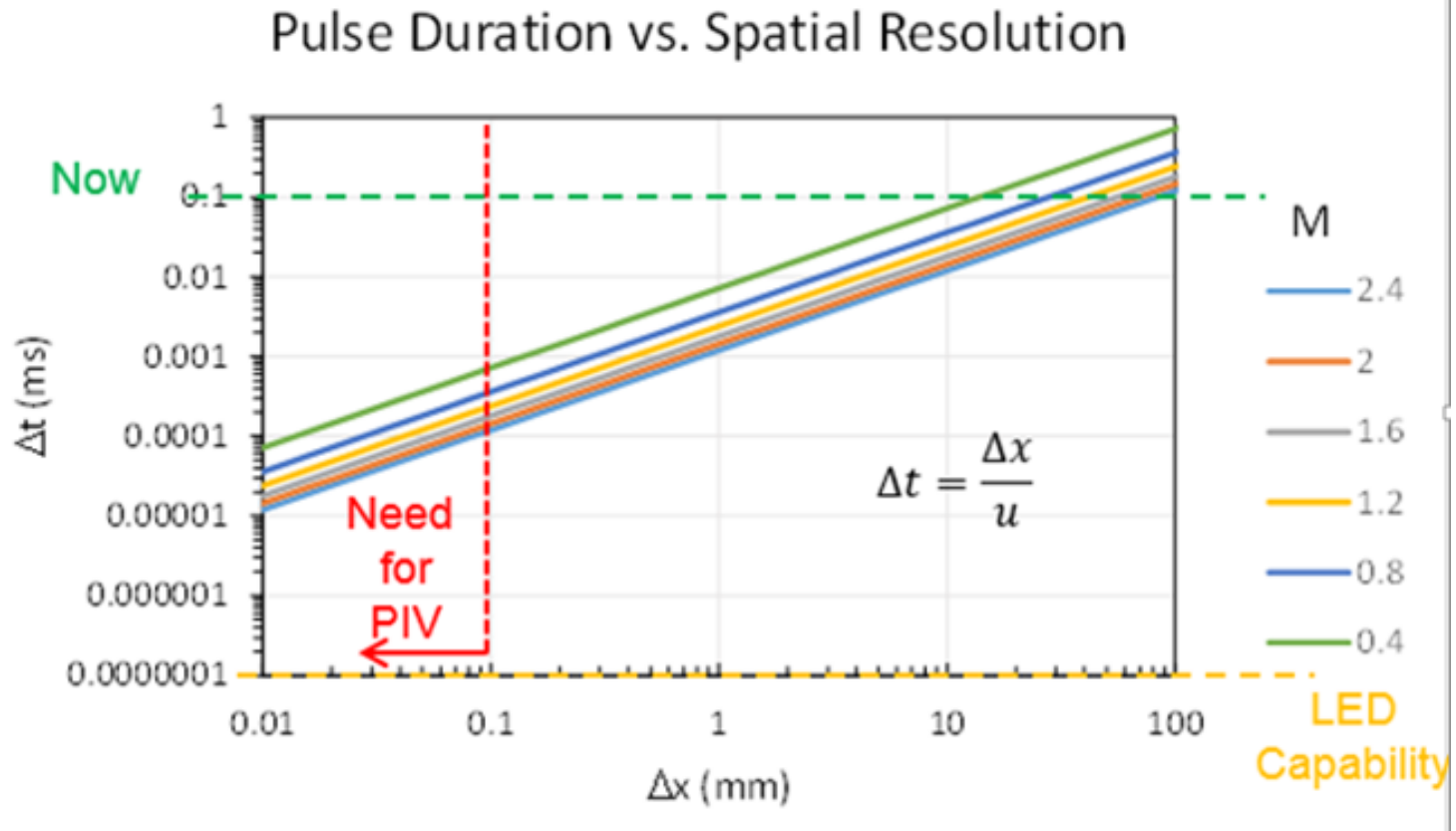
# Amplifier → Transistor



- Yellow is the output of the amplifier (the gate input of the transistor) and green is the output of the transistor
- 1μs scale on left and 4μs scale on right
- Delayed response of transistor seems to be related to delayed rise to peak voltage in the amplifier (amplifier might need to be replaced)



# Pulsed Light Source



- Pulse width needs to be dropped 3 orders of magnitude for PIV





# Conclusions

- Status of current system :
  - Insufficient sensitivity to resolve turbulent density fluctuations
  - Insufficient depth of sharp focus to resolve turbulent structures
  - Insufficient temporal response to freeze flow

	Expected	Actual	Required
Sensitivity: Density Gradient ( $\frac{kg}{m^4}$ )	0.88	26	5
Depth of Sharp Focus (mm)	1	10	1
LED Pulse Width ( $\mu s$ )	5	70	0.1



# Next Steps

- Regular Schlieren
  - Obtain more downstream images
- Main problem with focused schlieren system is rigidity
  - Focused schlieren very difficult to align precisely
  - Will provide better frame for Fresnel lens and source grid
- LED power supply
  - Some components don't seem to behave as advertised
  - Will test with new components
  - Looking into alternative circuits



# Acknowledgements

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# References

1. Vandercreek, Colin, Michael Smith, and Kenneth Yu. "Focused Schlieren and Deflectometry at AEDC Hypervelocity Wind Tunnel No. 9." *27th AIAA Aerodynamic Measurement Technology and Ground Testing Conference* (2010):.
2. Lawson, Michael, Michael Hargather, Gary Settles, Leonard Weinstein, and Sivaram Gogineni. "Focusing-Schlieren PIV Measurements of a Supersonic Turbulent Boundary Layers." *47th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting including The New Horizons Forum and Aerospace Exposition* (2009).
3. Willert, C., B. Stasicki, J. Klinner, and S. Moessner. "Pulsed Operation of High-power Light Emitting Diodes for Imaging Flow Velocimetry." *Measurement Science and Technology Meas. Sci. Technol.* 21.7 (2010): 075402.